

test reports of the second laboratory was evaluated by Drugs Controller of India before certifying that they meet BIS specifications. Hence the question of conducting any investigation does not arise.

[Translation]

Anomaly in Pensions

2967. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring parity in the pension of earlier and recently retired army men; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). There has been some disparity in the amount of pension of persons retired at various point of time. The disparity is due to the fact that the pension is linked to the pay drawn at the time of retirement and the length of qualifying service rendered by the individual. For reducing disparity in pension of pre and post 1986 pensioners, the pension of pre 1.1.86 defence pensioners was consolidated by recalculating their pension by applying 50 percent formula and merging dearness relief upto CPI 608. A scheme for One Time Increase in pension (OTI) has also been sanctioned w.e.f. 1.1.92 to pre 1986 defence pensioners. About 8.03 lakhs defence pensioners who retired prior to 1.1.86 are expected to benefit from the OTI Scheme.

2. The above measures have substantially narrowed down to disparities in pension between pre and post 1986 pensioners.

Flyover on N.H. 31

2968. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposals are pending with the Government for constructing flyovers on National Highway No.31;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

State Highways into National Highways

2969. DR. SAHEBRAO SUKRAM BAGUL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to convert

the 11 State Highways proposed by the Maharashtra Government into National Highways:

(b) if so, the time by which these State Highways would be declared as National Highways; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c). Due to paucity of funds for the development of National Highways during the 8th Plan, it has not been possible to declare this road as National Highways.

Funds For Research Proposals

2970. PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR :

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has been unable to fund a large number of research proposals of vital importance due to shortage of funds;

(b) if so, the details of these proposals which could not be financed by UGC due to shortage of funds; and

(c) the future plan of action, if any, so that research projects do not suffer on account of inadequate funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). University Grants Commission (UGC) provides requisite financial assistance to various universities and colleges for execution of research projects in different subjects and disciplines. According to the information furnished by UGC, during 1995-96, 52 Major and 54 Minor Research Project proposals in Sciences and 80 Major and 36 Minor Research Project proposals in Humanities and Social Sciences were approved as the first priority and funded as per the prescribed norms. Besides, 53 Major and 3 Minor Research Project proposals in Engineering & Technology were also approved in the first priority category. It has, however, not been possible to accommodate all proposals due to constraint of financial resources.

[English]

Loss of Life and Property by Floods in U.P.

2971. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the regions in Uttar Pradesh which had floods during the current monsoon and the total loss of life and property suffered on that account;

(b) the factors primarily responsible for floods in the State, region-wise/place-wise;

(c) whether the Uttar Pradesh Government has sought assistance from the Union Government for immediate and long term measures to check the recurrence of floods in those regions/places;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the decision taken by the Government with regard to short term and long term measures keeping in view the havoc caused by the floods in these areas;

(f) whether the district administration of these districts had sought military assistance to combat flood menace in these areas; and

(g) if so, the reason for not providing military assistance to expedite relief operations in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Three districts namely, Firozabad, Agra and Mathura were affected by floods during current monsoon. The details of loss of lives and property are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) The factors primarily responsible for floods in the State are heavy rainfall, flat topography, lack of

easy outfall, inadequate drainage and in some cases backing up of waters in tributaries from the main rivers at their outfalls.

(c) and (d). Government of Uttar Pradesh had submitted a memorandum to the Central Government seeking financial assistance of Rs.409 crore for immediate and long term measures. Central Government has released two instalments of Calamity Relief Fund amounting to Rs.46.92 crore for immediate relief and rehabilitation measures.

(e) Long term and short term measures of flood control are planned and implemented by the State Government out of their own plan funds. Schemes costing more than Rs.1 crore are examined and approved by the Centre. However, as a non-structural, long term measure, the Centre is providing flood forecasts during the monsoon at 33 stations in Uttar Pradesh to assist the State authorities in rescue and relief operations.

(f) and (g). Information in this regard is not available in this Ministry.

STATEMENT

Damage due to Heavy Rains/Floods, 1996

S. No.	Districts affected	Villages affected	Population affected (in lakhs)	Total area affected (in hect.)	Cropped area affected (in hect.)	Houses		Lives-Lost	
						Damaged/Destroyed		Human	Cattle
						Fully	Partially		
1.	Firozabad	281	1.80	8515	230	-	-	10	31
2.	Agra	490	3.12	7635	4606	-	4084	12	159
3.	Mathura	293	5.03	74125	25109	7848	9617	23	260
Total		1064	9.95	90275	29943	7848	13701	45	450

District-Padrauna (due to Boat accident)	4
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[Translation]

Jamrani Dam Project In Uttar Pradesh

2972. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT BACHDA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Jamrani Dam Project in Nainital district of Uttar Pradesh is under construction;

(b) if so, the reasons for slow progress in its construction;

(c) whether the Government propose to take action to complete this project soon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Jamrani Dam Project in Nainital district of Uttar Pradesh is an ongoing scheme of VIII plan. As per the Draft Annual Plan of 1995-96 of the State, the construction works of the Jamrani Dam Project has been postponed for the time being due to paucity of funds.

(c) and (d). Irrigation is a State subject. The projects are planned, funded and implemented by the State Govt. from their own resources. Completion of the project will depend upon the priority given by the State Government.